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PRINCETON · NEW JERSEY

PRESENTED BY

Mr. Joseph MacCarroll, Stated Clerk,
Synod of New Jersey

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Presbyterian Church in the
U.S.A. Synod of New Jersey.
Minutes of the ... annual
session of the Synod of New

# M I N U T E S

of the

# S Y N O D  O F  N E W  J E R S E Y

for the year ending

October, 1840

M I N U T E S

of the

ANNUAL SESSION

of the

SYNOD OF NEW JERSEY

for the year 1840

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Wilkesbarre, October 12, 1840

The Synod of New Jersey met pursuant to adjournment at 3 o'clock and was opened with a sermon by the Rev. Jos. L. Shafer, the last Moderator from Luke 1:62 and was opened with prayer.

Present from the Presbytery of Elizabethtown

Rev. Mr. Murray
Mr. Ogden
Mr. English
Mr. P. Cory

Presbytery of New Brunswick

Dr. Miller
Mr. Comfort
Mr. Rodgers — Caleb Broka[illegible] B. BK
Mr. Yeomen
Mr. J. MacLean

Presbytery of Raritan

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Rev. Mr. | Kirkpatrick | Dr. Neighbor | German Valley |
| | Mr. Scott | | Fox Hill |
| | Mr. Williams | Robt. C. Stephen | Pt. Grove |
| | Mr. Studdiford | Geo. J. Mitsar | Amwell 1st. |
| | Mr. Hall | | |

Presbytery of Newton

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|---|---|---|---|
| | Dr. Junkin | Dr. Griggs | Newton |
| Rev. | Mr. Gray | Mr. Stewart | Easton |
| | Mr. Shafer | Saml L. Stewart | Greenwich |
| | Mr. Van Derveer | Jos. Kennedy | Allen Township |
| | Mr. Jankin | | |
| | Mr. [illegible] | | |
| | Mr. Machair | | |
| | Mr. Webster | | |
| | Mr. Schenck | | |
| | Mr. Gaston | | |
| | Mr. Irwin | | |

Presbytery of Susquehanna

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Rev. Mr. Snowden | John D. Baker | Williamsport |
| Mr. Todd | Chas. Miller | Livingston |
| Mr. Fruitz | Sherman Loomis | Northumberland |
| Mr. Torrance | Ira A. Hinman | Towanda |
| Mr. Gross | Bailey Coburn | Danner |
| Mr. Foster | | |
| Mr. Bronson | | |

Presbytery of Caladonia

Rev. Mr. Platt
Mr. Beddington
Mr. Love
Mr. Harrow

Rev. N. Murray chosen Moderator and Messrs. Rodgers and D. L. Rankin were chosen clerks.

The Committee appointed at the last meeting to make arrangements for the missionary meeting to be held the first evening of the session made the following report which was adopted, viz., ( Report ) No. 1.

Synod had recess until half past six o'clock this evening.

After recess Synod convened- present as before and attended to the religious exercises agreeable to the report of the Committee.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read.

Members of Synod absent from the last meeting present at this assigned satisfactory reasons for their absence.

Synod adjourned to tomorrow morning at nine o'clock- closed with prayer.

Friday Morning Nine O'clock

Synod convened according to adjournment - opened with prayer- present as before.

The Minutes of the last session were read.

The following committees were appointed, viz.,

Bills and Overtures

Ministers, Shafer, Ogden, Yeoman, Studdiford, Snowden and Jones.

Elders, Wilson, S. T. Stewart and Fuller.

On The Records of the Presbytery

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|---|---|
| Elizabethtown | Ministers, McClean and Dorrance<br>Elder, Baird. |
| New Brunswick | Ministers, Gray and Williams<br>Elder, C. Fuller |
| Raritan | Ministers, Dr. Junkin and Mr. Comfort.<br>Elder, Brokaw |
| Newton | Ministers, Kirkpatrick and English<br>Elder, Bailey Coburn |
| Susquehanna | Ministers, Platt and Irwin<br>Elder, Neighbour |
| Caledonia | Ministers, McNair and Cory<br>Elder Stevens. |

On Treasurer's Account

Elders, John Stewart and J. S. Findlay.

The Statistical reports of Presbyteries were called for and received as follows:

The Presbytery of Elizabethtown reported that (see report No. 2).

The Presbytery of New Brunswick reported that (report No. 3).

The Presbytery of Raritan reported that (report No. 4).

The Presbytery of Newton reported that (No. 5).

The Presbytery of Susquehanna reported that (No. 6).

The Presbytery of Caledonia reported that (No. 7).

These reports were accepted, and Rev. John J. Carril of the Presbytery of Newton and Rev. John Iverson and Elders, Joseph Jenkins of the Welsh Church in Pike and Neal from the Church of Windsor took their seats as members of Synod.

On Motion Resolved, that a committee of three be appointed to prepare and report to this Synod at its present session a resolution expressing the sense of the Synod on the proper form of dismissing members of Presbyteries and churches to join bodies not in our ecclesiastical connections. Mr. Leeman, Dr. Junkin and Elder Briggs were appointed on said committee.

Mr. Gray, Mr. Scott, Ministers and Elder Kennedy were appointed a committee to draft a narrative of the State of Religion.

Ministers Schenck and [illegible]oster and Elder Loomis were appointed a committee to examine the Minutes of the General Assembly and report any parts that may require the notice of this Synod.

The committee appointed to examine the Treasurer's Accounts report that they have performed that duty and find the accounts correct and that there is a balance due the Treasurer of $15.20 and they recommend that a collection of fifty cents from each member be made for the purpose of meeting this sum.

The Clerk gave notice that there was an appeal and complaint from the Session and Trustees of the Churches of Seneca Valley and Fox Hill against the action of the Presbytery of Kittanning in regard to the organization of a Church in Lower Seneca Valley. Referred to a Judicial Committee consisting of Dr. Junkin, Prof. Schenck and Bronson, Ministers and Mr. Drake and John Stewart, Elders.

A collection for the contingent fund was made amounting to twenty five dollars and ninety seven cents.

Synod had recess till 2 o'clock.

After recess Synod convened- present as before.

The following preamble and Resolutions were presented and on motion unanimously adopted, viz.,

Whereas the last General Assembly ordered a certain report concerning the Christian instruction of Children and Youth be printed and distributed by the Board of Publication; and whereas said report recommends that all our Synods, as well as our Church Sessions and Presbyteries direct particular attention to this important subject: Therefore Resolved, that it be earnestly recommended to all the Presbyteries under the care of this Synod, to direct their early and serious attention to this subject: and that it be respectfully suggested to each Presbytery to appoint a standing committee to take this whole subject into consideration and to adopt such measures for prosecuting it to effect, as may be judged by the respective Presbyteries to be wise and useful.

Mr. Donald Fraser an Elder from the Church of Caledonia in the Presbytery of Caledonia appeared in Synod and his reasons for not coming sooner were sustained.

The Judicial Committee reported that the complaint of the Session and Board of Trustees of the Church of German Valley against the action of the Presbytery of Raritan was in order and recommended that it be taken up according to the book discipline.

Mr. Van Dervoer, Minister, and Mr. Loomis, Elder, had leave of absence from the remaining sessions of Synod after this evening.

The complaint of the Session and Trustees of German Valley was taken up- the records of the Presbytery of Raritan in the case were read- the complaint of the complainants was read- The complainants were heard in support of their complaint, in part- after which Synod had recess until after public worship this evening.

After public worship Synod convened- present as before together with Mr. Hale of the Presbytery of New Brunswick whose reasons for not coming sooner were sustained.

On motion Messrs. Jerome and Baker of the Presbytery of Susquehanna, Mr. Kirkpatrick, and Stevens of the Presbytery of Raritan, Mr. Yeoman and Mr. Brokaw of the Presbytery of New Brunswick, Mr. Shafer and D. V. Stewart of Newton, Mr. Platt and Mr. Fraser of Caladonia and Mr. Ogden of the Presbytery of Elizabeth Town were appointed a committee to take into consideration the subject of a division of Synod and report thereupon.

It was resolved that the next meeting of Synod be held at Princeton, New Jersey.

On motion Mr. Gray, Prof. Maclean and Mr. J. Stewart were appointed a committee to take into consideration and report for the propriety of holding the stated meeting of Synod at an earlier period than has been customary.

The stated Clerk was ordered to transmit the statistical report of Synod to the General Assembly.

Messrs. Wines and Webster had leave of absence from the remaining sessions.

Synod adjourned to tomorrow morning at nine o'clock- closed with prayer.

Saturday morning 9 O'clock

Synod met according to adjournment; opened with prayer. Present as before- The minutes of the last session were read- The Rev. D. McFarland of the Synod of Virginia and the Rev. Thomas R. Hunt of the Synod of North Carolina being present were invited to sit as correspondents.

A letter was read from the session of the Church of Scottsville, New York, asking for advice and assistance in regard to some pecuniary difficulties. Therefore Resolved, that it be recommended to the churches under our care to make collections for the benefit of the Church in Scottsville, New York, and remit the same collected to the Stated Clerk of Synod or any proper agent of said Church.

The committee appointed to examine the records of the Presbytery of Susquehanna, report that they have performed that duty and recommend that they approve as far as page 201.

The committee appointed to examine the records of the Presbytery of New Brunswick reported that they had approved as far as page 279- with the following exceptions

(on file)

The committee appointed to examine the records of the Presbytery of Baltimore report- [illegible] to page 45- report accepted.

The committee on religious exercises made report [illegible] and was accepted and adopted as follows- (on file).

The unfinished business- viz., the appeal from a decision of the Presbytery of Harrison, was taken up. The complainants were further heard. The Presbytery was heard in defence of its action.

Synod had a recess until 2 o'clock.

Synod met- present as before.

Committee on the records of the Presbytery of Lewisburg reported that they had examined them and recommend that they be approved as far as page 313.

The unfinished business was taken up- the Presbytery of Halifax were further heard. The complainants and the Presbytery then withdrew. The roll was called and the members of Synod expressed their opinions- after which the final vote was taken and the complaint was sustained. And on motion Mr. Shafer, Mr. Yeomen, Ministers and Mr. Baker, Elder were appointed a committee to bring in a minute upon the subject.

Resolutions respecting prayer on the 1st Sabbath in March (on file).

Committee on Elizabeth Town Presbytery book to part of with following exceptions (on file).

Committee on complaint- adopted (on file).

Mr. Coburn had leave of absence.

Synod had recess until 3 o'clock.

At the close of the recess Synod met and attended the synodical prayer meeting agreeably to the arrangements previously reported etc.

Committee on division of Synod reported, that in its judgment a division cannot at this time with propriety be made.

Committee on discussion of Church report (on file).

Yeomen, Grey, Guildford, Torrance, Cowden and Platt. Committee in reference to Domestic Missions to report at the next meeting of Synod- (on file).

Committee on minutes of General Assembly reported (on file).

Pay the Janitor's bill- $3.00.

Committee on religious exercises reported the following for the Sabbath- (on file).

Shafer, Grey, Gilbert, Ministers and John Stewart and Ira A. Sharrard, Elders- a committee- in reference to the division of the Presbytery of Halifax (on file).

Birch and stated clerk to publish part of the minutes in the Presbyterian and in such other periodicals as they may see fit.

Religious exercises attended agreeably to report.

Thanks of Synod to the inhabitants of Milnesburro and vicinity etc.

Dr. Rice, Prof. Maclean and Mr. Lowry, Elder, a Committee to make arrangements for the religious exercises at next Synod.

Adjourned to meet on Monday morning at 9 o'clock- concluded with prayer.

Mr. Carrol, Easton, Blair, Schenck, Grigg, Jenkins, Mr. Hamlin.

Monday Morning 9 O'clock Oct. 8th

Synod met pursuant to adjournment and was opened with prayer- Present as before. Minutes of last session read.

Members of Synod connected with the Church at Milnesburro agreeably to the report of the Church.

Committee on the Memorial reported-
Narrative

The Synod then spent a season in religious exercises- after which Synod adjourned to meet at Princeton etc.

Concluded with prayer and benediction.

# A P P E N D I X

1. RESOLUTIONS AND IMPORTANT ACTIONS.

2. NARRATIVE OF THE STATE OF RELIGION.

3. PRESBYTERIAL STATISTICAL REPORTS.

## NARRATIVE OF THE STATE OF RELIGION

The committee appointed to draft the narrative of the state of religion, within the bounds of the Synod, reported the following which was read and adopted.

Jehovah's Sovereignity in the dispensations of his grace, has been signally manifested in different points within the bounds of the Synod during the past year. The dews of his Spirit have fallen copiously and with powerful refreshing on many congregations; The church of Westfield, in the Presbytery of Elizabethtown has been specially favored. It has truly enjoyed a blessed season of reviving. Seventy persons have been added to its communion. The church of Plainfield in the same Presbytery has also during the years been favored with a season of refreshing from the presence of the Lord. The churches of Freehold, the Village church of Freehold, and the church at Middletown Point in the Presbytery of New Brunswick-the church of Belvidere in the Presbytery of Newton, as well as some others have shared in no small degree in the same regenerating effusions.

While however these spots in the vineyard have been fertilized with showers of grace, we have much reason for lamentation that a large portion of the territory embraced by our churches is lying in comparative coldness and spiritual apathy. A fearful amount of Sabbath breaking abounds. Oh that sinners would hallow the Sabbath day! And it is with exceeding regret that we are obliged to report that the great cause of Temperance is not advancing in a degree tantamount to its importance.

Among much that is sad to contmplate, it is a matter of joy and satisfaction that the Several Presbyteries consituting the Synod report that Sabbath Schools and Bible Classes within their bounds have never been in a more flourishing condition and that catechetical instrution is attended with a zeal and interest for a lon time unknown, while the preaching of the gospel, and the other stated means of grace receive commendable attention.

The Synod has been called to mourn the afflictive Providence which has removed during the past year that beloved and devoted servant of Jesus Christ, the Rev. Joseph Campbell D. D. a member of our body whose praise is in all the churches.

The Synod are gratified to state that the Theological Seminary at Princeton is in a highly flourishing condition, having had in connection with it during the year one hundred and ten students, and that it is sustaining its usual high character and standing among the schools of the Prophets in our lands.

The colleges of New Jersey and La Fayette within our bounds are also in a flourishing state-the former having had during the past year 230 students, and the latter nearly 100 in attendance.

The Synod in closing this narrative commend these institutions to God's people, soliciting their prayers to the Great Head of the church, that the talent and influence collected in them may be sanctified and brought into the service of the church and that He may also pour out copious effusions of grace upon all our congregations and hasten that eventful period when the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of his glory.

PRESBYTERIAL
STATISTICAL REPORTS
1840

1. The Presbytery of Elizabethtown report to the Synod of New Jersey, that they consist of 28 Ministers, and have under their care 22 Congregations, 7 Licentiates, and 7 Candidates.

The Presbytery also report that on the 2nd day of April 1840 , they received the Presbyterian Church at Paterson with its Pastor the Rev. John C. Clark, late of the Presbytery of Newark, and on the same day licensed Mr. Edwin Reinhart to preach the gospel, that on the 28th of August, they dissolved the pastoral relation of the Rev. Orlando L. Kirtland to the church in Morristown--that on the 7th of October they licensed Messrs. William B. Carter and Jonathon P. Alward to preach the Gospel, and on the same day dismissed the Rev. Daniel W. Johnson to the Presbytery of Newark and erased the name of the church of Mendham from their list of churches, in consequence of the fact that said church had withdrawn from their jurisdiction-and on the same day dismissed Mr. William B. Carter a licentiate under our care to put himself under the care of the Presbytery of Holsten.

All which is respectfully submitted.
By order of Presbytery.
JAMES M. WHITING, Stated Clerk.

2. The Presbytery of New Brunswick report to the Synod of New Jersey, that they consist of 39 Ministers, and have under their care 19 Congregations, 11 Licentiates, and 8 Candidates.

The Presbytery further report that on the 4th of February 1840, they dismissed Mr. John W. Lodge, a licentiate to put himself under the care of the Presbytery of Vincennes, Mr. Ward D. Talbot, a licentiate to put himself under the care of the Presbytery of Erie; Mr. George Wells, a licentiate to put himself under the care of the Presbytery of Columbus; Mr.

Theodore Gallandet to put himself under the care of the Presbytery of Lexington and Mr. Henry R. Canbern, a licentiate to put himself under the care of the Presbytery of Salem--that on the same day they dismissed the Rev. Horace Doolittle to join the classis of Passaic and dissolved the pastoral relation of the Rev. Henry Perkins to the church of Nottingham-that on the same day they dissolved the relation between the churches of Allentown and Nottingham-that on the 25th of March, they withdrew from Mr. Joseph Silcox his license to preach the gospel, and ordained Mr. William W. Sculey as an Evangelist to the Heathen-that on the 28th of April they dismissed Mr. William Wright, a licentiate to put himself under the care of the 2nd Presbytery of Philadelphia, and the Rev. John W. Grier, to join the same Presbytery-that on the 29th of the same month, they ordained Mr. George Ely, and on the same day and day following installed him Pastor of the Congregation of Nottingham and Dutch Neck-that on the 17th of June they received the Rev. Luther H. Van Doren from the Presbytery of Missouria and on the same day installed him pastor of the church of Freehold-that on the 4th of August they dismissed the Rev. Benjamin Ogden to join such Presbytery in the Synod of Indiana, as he might think best-that on the same day the Rev. John W. Grier returned his dismission to join the 2nd Presbytery of New Castle-that on the same day they received the Rev. Jonathon Huntington from the Berkshire Association-that on the 5th of the same month, they licensed Messrs. Samuel R. Wilson, Chauncey Leavenworth, Leroy D. Halsey and John W. Gilbreath to preach the gospel, and dismissed Mr. Samuel R. Wilson a licentiate to put himself under the care of the Presbytery of Cincinatti-that on the 25th day of August, they dissolved the Pastoral relation of the Rev. William R. L. Betts to the 2nd church of Upper Freehold-that on the 7th of October, they received the Rev. Hugh Hamill from the Presbytery of Wilmington and ordained Mr. Owen M. Canfield as an Evangelist, he being about to proceed to Africa-and on the same day licensed Messrs. Samuel F. Colt, Joshua McIlvaine, and Isaac L. Davidson to preach the gospel.

All which is respectfully submitted.
By order of Presbytery.
ELI F. COOLEY, Stated Clerk.

3. The Presbytery of Newton report to the Synod of New Jersey, that they consist of 19 Ministers, and have under their care 24 Congregations, 5 Licentiates, and 6 Candidates.

The Presbytery further report that on the 15th of October 1839, they received Mr. John J. Carrel, a licentiate from the 2nd Presbytery of Philadelphia, and that on the 19th of December 1839, they ordained and installed him Pastor of the churches of Oxford and Harmon-that on the 15th of October 1839, they received the Rev. James Clark from the Presbytery of New Brunswick, and that on the 20th of November 1839, they installed him Pastor of the churches of Upper and Lower Mount Bethel; that on the 28th of April 1840, they received the Rev. Joseph Morrel from the Presbytery of Raritan-that on the same day they dissolved the pastoral relation of the Rev. Isaac N. Candee to the church of Belvidere-that on the 28th of April 1840, they dissolved the pastoral relation of the Rev. James Clark to the churches of Upper and Lower Mount Bethel, and installed him Pastor of the church of Belvidere-that on the same day they licensed Messrs. Andrew Fully, and James Ramsey to preach the Gospel.

All which is respectfully submitted.
By order of Presbytery.
J. GRAY, Stated Clerk.

4. The Presbytery of Raritan report to the Synod of New Jersey that they consist of 8 Ministers, and have under their care 14 Churches, and 1 Licentiate.

The Presbytery further report that on the 22nd of April 1840, they dismissed the Rev. Joseph Morrel to join the Presbytery of Newton-and that on the 6th of September 1840, the Rev. Joseph Campbell, D. D. departed this life.

All which is respectfully submitted.
By order of Presbytery.
PETER O. STUDDIFORD, Stated Clerk.

5. The Presbytery of Susquehanna report to the Synod of New Jersey, that they consist of 10 Ministers, and have under their care 17 Congregations and 3 Candidates.

The Presbytery further report that on the 6th day of February 1840, they received the Welch Church, Pike, which having been a congregational church, was on the day aforesaid regularly organized according to the constitution of the Presbyterian Church.

All which is respectfully submitted.
By order of Presbytery.
JOHN DOTTERER, Stated Clerk.

6. The Presbytery of Caledonia report to the Synod of New Jersey, that they consist of 10 Ministers, and have under their care 9 Congregations, and 1 Candidate.

The Presbytery further report that on the 18th of March 1840, they organized and received under their care the 1st Presbyterian Church of Vienna-that on the same day they received the Rev. Moses Ingalls from the Presbytery of Cayuga, in accordance with the direction of the General Assembly-that on the 25th of August 1840, they received the Rev. Thomas Aitkin (a foreign minister) agreeably to the rules of the General Assembly, and according to the advice of the Synod-that on the 25th of August, they received the Rev. George Colton of the Presbytery of Genessee-that on the same day they received under their care the congregations of Windsor and Mentz-that on the 27th of August, they dismissed the Rev. Simeon R. Jones to join the Presbytery of Susquehanna-that on the same day they installed the Rev. Thomas Aitkin Pastor of the church of Sparta-that on the 10th of September, they organized and received under their care the church of Barrington-and that on the 7th of October they installed the Rev. Lewis Cheeseman pastor of the church of Scottsville.

All which is respectfully submitted.
By order of Presbytery.
ISAAC W. PLATT, Stated Clerk.